

CITY MOVES TO LOCATE COURT IN NEW CIVIC CENTER

Board of Supervisors Must Approve District

The first step for the establishment of a Torrance municipal court to be located on the new civic center site was taken Tuesday night by the City Council. A resolution was called for asking the County Board of Supervisors to establish a municipal court district here. Atty. James M. Hall said the resolution would be ready early April.

If favorable action is taken by the supervisors, the court will probably be located on the new civic center site north of Torrance Blvd. between Maple and Madrona.

Presently municipal court matters from Torrance are handled by the two South Bay municipal courts in Redondo Beach.

The growing demands of this rapidly expanding area makes a local municipal court highly desirable and needed, it has been pointed out.

Torrance had a city court until two years ago when it was abolished by the Interior Courts Reorganization Act.

County Civic Center Fund In Budget

Rapid action in the locating of a branch of the county civic center to serve the communities of Carson, Dominguez, Lomita, Long Beach, Miraleste, Rolling Hills, and Palos Verdes was forecast Tuesday by Supervisor Burton W. Chace, who announced that the County Regional Planning Commission has already begun studies to determine the exact location for the center.

In Budget Chace revealed that the county's chief administrative officer, Arthur J. Will, has stated that money for the purchase of a site and preparation of necessary plans will be included in the county's 1955-56 budget.

Will's action was brought about as a result of a letter from Chace of March 22 requesting that immediate studies be made of the possibility of establishing the branch civic center to serve "this rapidly growing area of the county." In his letter Chace also requested that funds be included at the earliest possible time in order that there be no delay in establishing the administrative center.

Departments According to Chace, it is planned to locate in the new (Turn to Page 9)

Identification Cards Issued Press Boys

Torrance newsboys have been issued identification cards which they will carry with them when making their monthly collections.

Boys should not be paid unless they show their identification card which is intended to protect them as well as our readers.

The wallet-size white card carries a picture of the boy, a serial number, and the carrier's name.

Every resident within our circulation area is entitled to a free copy of The Torrance Press. The money given our Merchant Newsboys is for their services only. The boys keep whatever money they collect. Payment is strictly voluntary, as is the amount which you wish to pay. When paying be sure you are paying the boy whose picture appears on the identification card and also ask for your receipt.

2ND COMMUNITY FAIR SET FOR JULY 13-17

Lloyd B. Familo of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, recently-appointed general chairman of the Community Fair to be held July 13-17, has announced that this year's proceeds will go to some deserving civic beneficiary, as was last year's practice.

"A committee is now in the process of screening possible recipients of Fair profits," Familo said. "The aim of the Torrance Jaycees is community betterment, and this year's Fair will be dedicated to that goal."

Meeting Set He and his helpers have already begun plans for the five-day affair, and representatives of civic, fraternal, and charitable organizations have been invited to attend a dinner meeting Wednesday night at the Alondra Park clubhouse to hear details.

"This second Community Fair should bring even more atten-

Hanson Says:

ANNEXATION TAX STUDY 'RIDICULOUS'

A Great Lakes Carbon official this week labeled as "utterly ridiculous" a cost-analysis prepared for the Rancho Palos Verdes Protective association purporting to show that every man, woman, and child in Torrance would have to pay \$400 in additional school taxes if the 6513 acres are annexed to Torrance.

"I have not seen the actual cost analysis but I have seen newspaper accounts of it," stated Ivar Hanson, of Great Lakes, "but the 3.6 homes per acre figure on which the cost analysis is based is utterly ridiculous. We couldn't build 3.6 homes per acre unless we could put platforms over the canyons."

Self-Supporting Hanson re-emphasized the fact that the figures prepared by Great Lakes are conservative and that the area would definitely pay for itself and that Torrance would still come out ahead financially over a 10-year period of time.

While Rolling Hills residents claim that some of the lots approved by the county for the first subdivision are under 7000 sq. ft., Hanson maintained that nowhere is that the case.

Professor's Survey The cost-analysis presented to the Protective association by a "noted accountant and university professor" maintains that Torrance residents could pay \$19,699,515 in additional school taxes if annexation goes through.

The findings are computed on the assumption that the area to be annexed would pay 1/6 of the taxes during the first 10 years and 1/3 thereafter. Costs were computed on the basis of 3.6 homes per acre, the average density of five tracts approved for the area, according to the analysis. The 3.6 homes per acre figure was called utterly fantastic and physically impossible by Hanson.

Figures However, on the basis of that figure, the total school population would be 14,600 rather than 11,315 as maintained by Great Lakes.

This would require three high schools and 16 elementary schools, instead of a total of (Turn to Page 9)

FORGERY LEADS TO ARREST

Low salary, a large family, and gambling debts were thought to be possible motives for the passing of \$900 worth of stolen or forged checks by George A. Livingston, 52, of 18209 Bonham, Gardena.

Livingston was arrested Friday and arraigned on three counts of forgery in the South Bay municipal court, according to Det. Sgt. Percy Bennett.

Around \$400 worth of checks were passed in Torrance, Bennett stated. Livingston is married and has "several" children. He was making \$1.25 an hour and was getting in debt more and more by gambling, Bennett stated.

"Livingston said he was glad he was arrested," Bennett said. "He said he knew that he would get caught some time."

tion to Torrance," Familo asserted, "because events of this nature seem to grow on people."

He indicated such special attractions as a queen contest, scores of commercial and industrial exhibits, nightly entertainment, kids' day, a giant midway lined with rides and games, and valuable door prizes which will be given away all during the fair.

Among local young men at work on various aspects of planning the event with Familo are Kieth Pischel, finance; El-

Shell Buys Three Local Rubber Plants

Sale of three synthetic rubber plants in the Torrance area to Shell Chemical company for \$30,000,000 went into effect at midnight Friday.

Involved were the Shell Chemical company butadiene plant, 19821 South Figueroa street; Midland Rubber company blending plant, 19201 South Vermont avenue; and Dow Chemical styrene plant, 20021 South Vermont avenue.

The three plants, built in 1943 for government rubber production, were sold in a package after the Senate voted down a resolution which would have blocked the sale of these and 21 other governments' plants in a package deal.

Red Cross Deadline Today

A major Red Cross victory for Torrance appeared imminent today as Albert Isen, fund chairman, reported that campaign returns from volunteers—in a final effort to meet today's official deadline—were pouring in with consistency at campaign headquarters.

Workers entered the final stretch of the 1955 fund program at the beginning of the week, when a 90 per cent goal—based on a sum of \$12,260—gave Torrance's team the strongest bid for the Earle M. Jorgenson trophy, due to go to the first Los Angeles community to top an area goal.

With approximately \$1500 yet (Turn to Page 9)

Ice Cream Truck Goes It Alone

After its driver fell out of an ice-cream truck on Western avenue near 223rd street Thursday, the truck kept on going and struck three parked cars before coming to a stop.

Suffering major injuries to her pride and apparently only minor ones to her body, Mrs. Ruby Harriett Lamphere, 51, of 1722 West 236th street fell out of the truck when she swerved to avoid an auto backing out of a parking lot, according to police record.

Car Takes Off as Bullets Fly

A man, who drove to the side of the road to rest because he wasn't feeling well, got better fast and took off in a hurry after two bullets came crashing into his car Monday night.

A possible would-be bandit may have fired the two bullets into the man's car.

Harold L. Neumann, 34, of 407 Anita street, Redondo Beach, said his car was fired on while it was parked along the 3700 block of 168th street shortly after 10 p.m. Neumann said he had two bullet marks on his car to prove it, according to Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton.

There was a crease across the hood and an oblique hole through the outside panel of the right door.

Neumann, father of two boys, said he was driving home from an electronics class at El Camino college when he became ill and stopped at the 168th street location to rest.

Upon seeing a light through the rear windshield, he backed his car slightly and drove off. "Someone shouted, 'Hey,' and then I heard shots being fired. I got away from there fast," he said.

He called Torrance police from a service station at Crenshaw and Torrance boulevards.

COUNCIL BRIEFS

TORRANCE ARMY: A request by the Torrance armory for \$300 from the city of Torrance annually to meet certain necessary expenses has been submitted to the city attorney for a recommendation.

REFUSE COLLECTION: Approval of a \$1 fee for the collection of each cubic yard of commercial refuse was given by the Council. An ordinance will be drafted. One free 18 cubic foot collection will be granted each week.

NAVAL SUPPLY DEPOT: An appeal to official govern-

(Turn to Page 9)

GAS STATION BURGLARIZED

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TWO NEWCOMERS



"WELCOME TO TORRANCE" . . . says Paul Loranger, president of the Chamber of Commerce, as he hands the key to the city to Tom Watson (center), new executive secretary of

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6-Year-Old Boy Saves Dog From 'Bottomless' Oil Sump

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A 6-year-old boy who was picking flowers for his mother in an open field saved the life of his little dog when the 1-year-old pup slipped and fell into a "bottomless" unfenced oil sump Saturday afternoon.

Park Bids Rejected By Council

All bids for park improvements in Torrance were rejected by the City Council Tuesday night in order to study problems which have arisen since the proposals were received two weeks ago.

One of these problems is the numerous protests which have been received from Seaside residents regarding a pitch and putt golf course in that area.

One of the other reasons was that even the lowest bid was about \$50,000 higher than the city was able to spend.

A public hearing will be held tonight by the Recreation Commission on the Seaside problem. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Seaside elementary school.

The project should be re-advertised after the Seaside problem is resolved and other possible changes are made, according to City Manager George Stevens.

Checks And 'Captain' Both Phony

A suave, pleasant individual, posing as a naval captain, has passed two personal no-account checks in Torrance, according to Det. Sgt. Percy Bennett.

One of these checks was passed at Ben's Delicatessen, 1300 Sartori. The \$30 check was used to pay for \$4 worth of liquor.

The man allegedly gave false Navy identification in cashing the checks. He wore a full uniform, complete with "scrambled eggs."

He used the name T. R. Stevens, and gave a local address. No one there ever heard of him.

He was described as about 50 years old, 6'1" tall, weighing 220 pounds, and having a ruddy complexion.

PUP SLIPS INTO ILLEGAL SUMP

A 6-year-old boy who was picking flowers for his mother in an open field saved the life of his little dog when the 1-year-old pup slipped and fell into a "bottomless" unfenced oil sump Saturday afternoon.

Credited with saving the life of his 1-year-old canine companion, Chigger, is Tony Bledsoe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jordan R. Bledsoe of 23014 Meyler, Keystone.

The accident occurred at a sprawling illegal oil sump in a field near 231st st. and Meyler.

After having pulled Chigger out of the sump, little Tony raced back to the house carrying the dog, crying.

"Momma, Momma, look what happened to Chigger!"

"There's just no bottom to that sump," Mrs. Bledsoe stated. "If Tony would have gone into it further he wouldn't have gotten out. Chigger was in it up to his neck. Only his back was showing."

In the meantime, while these hazards to animals and children persist, Torrance, Los Angeles county and L. A. city are either still working to whip up an oil sump ordinance with "teeth in it" or are trying to get by with what they have.

Model Law Planned Torrance's City Attorney James Hall stated that the first job of the new deputy city attorney, Stanley Remelmeyer, is to draft a strong oil sump ordinance. Hall stated that Remelmeyer has had a lot of experience with this particular problem and is expected to draft a model ordinance.

Provisions which have been discussed for such an ordinance include: cleaning up and eliminating existing sumps; forbidding new sumps; tight link fences in case sumps are allowed; a stiff performance bond in order to assure that demands are complied with; and a fee on abandoned derricks to discourage oilmen from keeping the derricks standing.

While this ordinance is being drafted, violations of the present ordinance are still going on daily in the Torrance oil fields.

Daily Violations One such is an unfenced sump right next to the Wood elementary school, corner Arlington and 235th st. Though the Torrance Press exposed that situation last week, no apparent attempt to correct it had been (Turn to Page 11)

Pres(s)to! She's So Happy Now!

Mrs. O. E. Richardson of 20519 Budlong avenue, Torrance, is happy this week.

The reason? She had a sewing machine which she wanted to sell and she sold it instantly through a Torrance Press classified ad.

This is the way her ad read: FOR SALE: Electric cabinet Singer sewing machine and stool. Practically new. DA. 4-5323

It's so easy to solve your problem with a Press classified ad. All you have to do is call FA. 8-2345 and ask for "classified." A friendly salesgirl will help you word your inexpensive ad just right. All it takes is 15 words or less to get instant results.

Gone With The Goods

Goods valued at \$269 were stolen sometime Monday from the car of Ardis L. Kemp whose car was parked in front of the Spotlight Cafe, 20706 South Normandie, Keystone, according to Lennox sheriffs.

Taken were three suits, eight sport shirts, three sheets, and miscellaneous cooking equipment.



ANOTHER NEAR-TRAGEDY . . . Little 6-year-old Tony Bledsoe of 23014 Meyler, Keystone and his 1-year-old pup, Chigger, look at a corner of the deep sump into which Chigger fell. The little terrier was rescued by his 6-year-old master. The incident recalls another recent case in which a 6-year-old boy pulled his 2-year-old baby sister from an illegal, unfenced sump into which she had fallen.

Unconscious Six Weeks After Crash

Still critical and unconscious six weeks after a collision in which he was involved during which four teenagers were killed and three injured is Charles Slatten, 16, of 18329 Roslin avenue, Torrance.

Slatten is at Harbor General Hospital. The accident occurred at Crenshaw and Rosecrans. Also reported critical still is C. V. Goodwin of 1018 West 222nd street. Goodwin was burned critically when the midjet race car he was demonstrating for his son, Phillip, 9, overturned and burned March 6.

Thief Takes Goods, Cash

Goods and cash totaling \$285 were stolen sometime Saturday evening from the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Simpson of 24412 Narbonne avenue, according to Lennox sheriffs.

Taken from the bedroom while the Simpsons were out to dinner were three men's wristwatches (including an Elgin), bills totaling \$190, two payroll and two personal checks, and two lady's wristwatches (Gruen and Bulova).

Enterprising Teenagers Start Drive For Center

By RALPH R. GOMPERTZ A group of youngsters, disturbed by the fact that Torrance does not have a youth center for teenagers, have taken it upon themselves to start a spirited drive to raise \$10,000 by July in order to build such a center.

Heading this drive is the youth group of the Torrance Coordinating Council under the leadership of Larry Lippincott, a junior at Torrance high school.

Helping the youngsters with their project in an advisory capacity are Mrs. J. L. Hinds, president of the Torrance high school PTA; Tony Gallo, Torrance high school teacher; and Harry Van Bellehem, director of recreation.

Activities Planned Plan of the fund-raising campaign is to have a series of public functions, such as adult dances, teenage dances, a May festival, and other activities.

One such adult dance will be held this Friday night, April 1, at the Civic Auditorium, corner Cravens and El Prado, starting at 8 p.m.

Support Urged The determination which Torrance youngsters have shown in inaugurating this drive for a teenage center deserves the wholehearted support of the community.

We take our hats off to our youngsters for their enterprising spirit and we wish them well.

April Fool's Dance Slated Friday Nite

An April Fool's dance, open to the public, will be held at the Civic Auditorium, corner Cravens and El Prado, Friday night, April 1, starting at 8 p.m.

The adult dance is one of the many money-raising events planned by the youth group of the Torrance Coordinating Council in order to raise enough money for a teenage center for high school students.

The youth group's goal is to build a teenage center the size of the YWCA.

The featured band for the Friday night dance is Al Chandler's "Sparklers," well-known local dance band. Tickets to the dance may be obtained from high school students; by calling the Recreation Department, 1347 El Prado, FA 8-4108; or at the door Friday night.